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SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 14, 1953

Mr. Von Walther of the German Embassy came to see me this morning. This was independent of the approach made to me yesterday by General Speidel. Von Walther stated that Hallstein had communicated with him and was anxious for me to come to Bonn as soon as possible and have a talk with the Chancellor and himself. I explained my engagements in Frankfurt on Tuesday, but told him I would, if it was deemed advisable by Dr. Conant, be glad to go to Bonn any time that suited his principals.

He repeated the story of the Chancellor's disillusionment over how badly the Saar negotiations were going and we had considerable discussion on that subject. I said to him I felt the Chancellor should exercise great patience in keeping negotiations open since Monsieur Bidault was in a ~~very~~ delicate position but was said to be courageously (here my tongue was cheek-enclosed) handling the problem of EDC, and I hoped also of the Political Community. The debate in the French Parliament next week on foreign affairs would, if it should result favorably, place Monsieur Bidault in a position seriously to undertake a settlement of the Saar directly with the Chancellor.

Griselda came to lunch and told us some interesting things about rallies she had lately attended as an observer of anti-EDC orators. Unquestionably, feeling in France is running ~~very~~ high on this subject. Lately there have been bitter public attacks on Monnet by Herriot and others alleging that he is the inspirer of European integration schemes designed to ruin the future of his country.

E. and I stopped around to see Pernet this afternoon and collected a few articles from him and elsewhere.

I returned to the house to meet Hervé Alphand, who is busily preparing memoranda that Monsieur Bidault may utilize in the debate on foreign affairs next week. Hervé is ~~very~~ resourceful and optimistic over eventual ratification

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but no one can now foretell what shape a new French Government nominated by a new French President may take.

Tonight I finished the correction of the revised set of proofs of the English language edition of my book.

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